







THE STARTLING PEVELATION THAT THE JOKER IS STILL ALIVE MOVES THE BATMAN TO PROMPT ACTION...

WHAT'S YOUR MY PLAN IS TO BATMANS FROM THE HOSPITAL BEFORE HE BECOMES STRONG AND

WILY ENOUGH TO SLIP THROUGH THE
HANDS OF THE POLICE. THEN WE'LL
TAKE HIM TO A FAMOUS BRAIN
SPECIALIST FOR ANY
OPENATION, SO THAT
HE CAN BE CURED

AND TURNED INTO A

MEANWHILE, IN A LUXURIOUS LAIR, THE MEMBERS OF CRIME SYNDICATE INC. MEET TO DISCUSS THEIR FUTURE ACTIVITIES ....

> / WONDER WHAT THAT NEWSY'S YELLIN'ABOUT OUTSIDE? HEY, JOHNNY!









THE CRIMINALS ARE

WITH GREAT CUNNING WEASEL RAPIDLY UNFOLDS HIS DARING SCHEME.

FIRST WE GET SOME OF US INTO THE HOSPITAL. THEN I GOT A PLAN FOR GETTIN' 'IM OUT AND PAST THE COPS, THAT'LL GROWHAIR BACK ON YOUR HEAD-NOW WHICH



THE DIE IS CAST! ONCE MORE THE MACHINATIONS

CRIME SYNDICATE
WILL BE FELT?
THIS TIME UNDER
THE RUTHLESS
LEADERSHIP OF

LEADERSHIP OF THE JOKER ?! WHAT IS THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE PRICELESS PHARAOH GEMS AND WEASEL'S PLAN TO ABOUCT THE JOKER ?









I'LL TURN

ROAD !







































































THICK OWARLED VINES HUGGING THE WALLS OF THE CAST IN-THUS BREAKING HIS FALL...

PHEW. \* ALMOST PULLED NY ARM OUT- NOW TO CLIMB BACK BEFORE THAT FIEND DOES SOME SERIOUS DAMAGE ....

THE BATMAN GRASPS THE



GLIMBING UP THE IVY-ENTANGLED WALLS TO REGAIN THE BALUSTRADE, THE BATMAN SMASHES INTO THE JOKER WITH RENEWED VIGOR...











BRUCE ! THAT'S RIGHT, ROBIN ! JUST THE JEWEL-CASK!
BUT I'VE GOT THE
JEWELS! I MANAGED
TO GET THEM AS WE
WERE CLIMBING UP
THE ROPE LADDER! GETTING AWAY WITH THE JEWEL CASK!



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MAMB BY CAY...
WOLF BY MIGHT...
SICKIN IS THE SECRET THE STRANGE CKE OF
HELE CRUE MISTER!
WHAT QUEER PREAMS,
I HAVE BEEN HAVING
LATELY INTHEM
SAND, LEARERY
CALLS, LEARERY
OLLERE AND,
FERSHATENING!































HERE!-WIND DESTI BELONG TO -HON DID IT TO -HERE ? ONE NIGHT HELIES AWAKE, PLANNING TO TRAP THE MYSTICAL OWNER OF THE SUIT!

I MUST SEE WHO
IT IS THAT WEARS
THE SUIT! I
TWELVE OCLOCK!







DEXT DAY CHANCE TAKES BRUCE





































































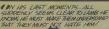














1:05 THEY LISTEN TO THE TALE WITH GROWNG AMAZEMENT, LAME SUPPENLY LOOKS UP WITH TROUBLED EYES ... AND EXPURES!

AND THAT'S HOW I ) WHAT A STORY !
BECAME THE CRIME SEEMS INFOSTBRE
MASTER! TIM SORRY TO BELIEVE!
I'M SORRY SORRY

CAN YOU IMAGINE! WHEN HIS HEAD HIT THE FLOOR THE STORY OF THE CRIME-MASTER PENETRATED INTO HIS VERY SOUL!

> AND THAT'S WHY HE CHANGED AT TWELVE OCLOCK BECALKE THAT'S WHEN HE HIT HIS HEAD!

THE SAW WAS THE MOUNTED PELT OF THE BAT WHICH EXPLANS WHY HE WAS SO FERHITHED WHEN HE SAW MY EMBLEM!







ORIGINAL BOY WONDER







The shrill ringing of his phone roused Henry Preston from the mystery story in which he had been immersed. Grunting, Preston put down the book and waddled toward the phone, moving as rapidly as his three hundred pounds would allow

He grumbled to himself as he

went across the floor of the wellstocked library. He always intended to have the phone transferred to the arm chair, but somehow he never quite got around to it And one thing Private Detec-

And one thing Private Detective Preston didn't like was to be disturbed while reading mystery stories.

His eyes blinked as he recognized the voice on the phone.

It was Garand, head of the insurance company which paid Preston a fat annual fee to act as special investigator. Garand's voice was excited: "The Blackman Ruby has been stolen. A lone gunman held up a supper party at Jason Trieste's house and got away with that as well as guests' valuables. You'd better get over there right away."

Preston shuffled into his clothes and presently climbed into the station wagon he used as a car He had found this form of transportation most convenient for his hulk. He whistled softly to himself as he drove toward Trieste's estate in Great Neck. The insurance company stood to lose a great deal of money, because Broker Trieste had insured the Blackman Ruby heavily.

The police allowed him to pass through their lines as he drove onto the estate. In another moment, he was in the huge library, where Lieutenants Tracy and Steele of the regular police were questioning the guests. Both knew and liked Henry Preston, whom the reporters had dubbed "The Dreadnaught Detective."

They gave Preston the facts, knowing he would see that they received any information he might dig up. Henry Preston's eyes blinked as he listened. A man in evening dress had entered, drawn a gun and forced Trieste to take the Blackman Ruby from the safe. After that, he had stripped the guests of their valuables.

Preston studied Jason Trieste's face. "Why was the ruby here tonight?" he asked. "Don't you usually keep it in a vault?"

Trieste licked his lips nervously. "Yes. But I had promised some of my week-end guests that they could see it." He glared at Preston. "I had it brought here by armored car this afternoon."

Preston blinked "You didn't

recognize the man who held up the party? Never saw him before?"

"Of course not. I've already told the police everything," Trieste's voice was indignant. "I suppose you want a description of him, too. All right. He was in evening clothes, the suit was double breasted, and he wore a red cummerbund and red tie. He tied up the six of us, gagged us, and left." Trieste's voice was sarcastic. "At the door, he put the gun into a shoulder holster My butter found us and gave the alarm." "That's right, sir."

Preston looked at the butler. "Your name?"

"William March, sir. I've been with Mr Trieste five years."

Preston waved him aside. Detective Lieutenant Tracy spoke up. "What do you think, Dreadnaught?"

Preston blinked. "I guess they all ought to go home. I'll take over, Lieutenant, and keep in touch with you." He turned to Trieste. "I wonder if you could, put me up for the night?"

Trieste said he could. Preston walked to the door with Tracy and Steele and said good-bye to them. He watched as Trieste walked his guests to their car. Then, swiftly for a man of his

girth, he went back to the library, opened the drawer of the broker's desk. His fingers riffled rapidly through some papers. He looked up as he heard a cough, It was March, the butler. "Just looking for a match," Preston apologized.

The butler eyed him coldly. "There's a lighter on top of the

desk. Good-night, sir.

But it wasn't good-night, An hour later, Preston shuffled his way to the pantry. March was there, sitting in his undershirt and eating a sandwich. He got to his feet as the detective came in. Preston waved him down. "Glad I found you," he wheezed. "I need some bicarb. Got indigestion." He watched the butler carefully as March obtained the bicarbonate.

Preston thanked him and went upstairs. It was a warm, summer night and the house was very still. There was a light beneath Trieste's bedroom door as Preston

tapped on it.

Surprised, the broker invited him in, "What can I do for you,

Mr. Preston?"

Preston smiled blandly. "You know we stand to lose a lot of money on that ruby theft, Mr. Trieste."

Trieste stared at him coldly. "That's no concern of mine." His eves were hard and glittering.

"Just what are you driving at?"

you to know that you're under suspicion." His eyes were wary as he saw Trieste start violently, Then, Preston stiffened. Someone had come into the room!

Trieste said: "Why, you're crazy! Get out of here, you . . . you . . ." His eyes hardened as his hand suddenly opened a drawer, came out with an automatic. "No. wait. Just what do you know?" He spoke over Preston's shoulder. "Don't shoot him, March."

Preston turned, March, an evil grin on his face, was holding a shiny gun in his hand. Without a flicker of emotion, Preston said: "You engineered that robbery vourself. Trieste, with March's

Trieste's eyes blazed with anger. "Don't shoot him, March. We don't dare wake up the other servants." He glared at Preston. "I think we can take care of you. See

if he has a gun."

Preston held up a fat hand. "I never carry a gun. Nothing but this whistle." Quickly, he blew a blast on it. March leaped toward him, sent the gun down on his head.

When Preston opened his eyes, Lieutenant Steele was bathing his face. Tracy was holding a gun on March and Trieste, who cowered

detective asked anxiously. "We got here just as they were trying to haul you out. It's a good thing you told us to hang around for a

Preston blinked, "There are your criminals, gentlemen," he said slowly, "I think a little sweating will reveal the hiding place of the jewels."

Preston waggled a fat finger at Trieste. "Mr. Trieste, here, has lost heavily recently in the market, as papers in his desk will show. He got March to do the stick-up, lending him clothes for the job. If you'll take off March's shirt, you'll see a red mark where the unfamiliar shoulder holster bruised his tender flesh." He smiled blandly at the expression on Trieste's face. "But what Mr. Trieste didn't realize," he murmured, "was that if, as he said, the thief was wearing a double breasted jacket, the red cummerbund around the top of his trousers wouldn't have been visible!"

Preston beamed benignly on the astonished detectives. "A very simple case, gentlemen," he murmured. "A very simple case."

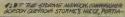
Happily, he went out. He was anxious to find out how the mystery story he had been reading would end. They always fooled him.

THE END









AND TRIF MAN CALLED STAFF TROUGHT CLUBEROT BRIGHS HITTED STAFF TRANSPORT RESIDENT TO STAFF TRANSPORT CALLE MAKELEY CALLE MAKELEY TRANSPORT CALLE MAKELEY CAL









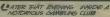












WELL, STORME.

WHERE'S THAT FIVE

TROUGHOUS GROWN

TOUGHOUS GROWN

ME 27 MOVITY NOW!

ME 27 MOVITY NOW!

ME WE'S

THE STATE OF THE STAT

TROUGHT WE FALL! HAM WHAT THE THEM WOULD CET IT FROM MY UNKLES MY LANGER ALL HE CET FAMILY LANGER THE MASS IT TO DO WHAT A LETTER HE

SAID REEV HUS SOMMOND TO DO WITH A LETTER HE HAS TO READ AT THE END OF THE HOUSE HE SOME

LET'S SEE THIS . HMM

"UNITED WE STAND - DIVIDED







































### 1.1% ROBIN POISES UPON THE WINDOW SILL HE STARES ASSAST ROSER STORME MINEDESCED : CLEEN STORME MINEDESCED : SECTION SE



1: JUT CRUNCHING THROUGH THE SOFT CRASS "A PAIR OF FEET ONE A HORRIBLE DISTORTED FOOT " CLUBFOOT!





I DOWN TO THE GROUND THEY FALL THE DEADLY CLAW COMING LOWER AND LOWER...











YES, ABOUT A WEEK AGO WARD PHONED ME

WAS GOING TO SETTLE

OUR OLD DISPUTE BY
GIVING ME GOME MONEY IN
PAYMENT! BUT WHEN I GOT
HERE I WAS CLUBBED AND

SAID HARLEY STORME

CHAINEDI

COLOMING THE SOLIND TO ITS SOLINGE, HE COMES UPON A LOCKED DOOR, PORCES IT OPEN AND SEES.





(!'DITH HIS GAS REMOVED, THE MAN SUDDENLY LOSSENS A TORRENT OF WORDS...

1. DEANWHILE THE BATMAN

LEAPS INTO THE

HOME OF THE

LAWYER, WARD!

I'M CUBFOOT, BUT
I'M NOT CUBFOOT! I
MEAN IN NOT CUBFOOT
THE KILLER "THAT'S
WARD!



WARD.

THE LAWYER

HE SAID HE WAS GOING TO MUREDER THE WAS ENOUGH FORMER FAMILY AND MAKE THE PULKE THINK I DID IT!-THEN HE WAS COING TO KILL ME, AND FORSE A SURIDE NOTE. NOBODY WOULD SISPECT HIM.







WITH PLEASURE YOU SEE, IT WAS A GOLDMINE! THAT'S WHAT THE SCRATCHINGS ON THE REVEN SPELLED OUT WHEN 'LINTED!'- DWIDED THEY MEANT NOTHING! THIS GOLDMINE WAS LEFT TO HARLEY'S HEIRS!



IF AN HEIR DIED. THE SHARES IN THE MINE WERE TO BE APPORTIONED AGAIN I-AND 50 ON IF ALL CIED, THE REMAINING HEIR WOULD RECEIVE ALL OF IT AND SINCE I WAS AN HEIR

90 NATIFALLY
VAL DELIGED TO KILL
THE OTHERS CEPT (LIBROT) REGS
NOLD BE BLANED FOR HIS TREET
ON THE EARNLY YOU WEREN'T
A RELATION AND ARRENDED TO
BE MARCHERED TO
BE MARCHERED

OF COURSE YOU HAD TO MUREER ALL THE STORMES IN THE STORMES IN THE STORMES IN THE STORMES IN THE THEY WAS ARRESTED HAVE TO MAN ARREST THE MANUEL THE MANUEL STORMES IN THE THEY MANUEL STORMES IN THE THEY MANUEL STORMES IN THE STORMES



YES, WHEN HARLEY
TOLD ME REDUIT THE
WILL MONTHS AGO. I.
THINGS I T KILLED HARLEY
STOOME AND AGE. STORME
AND ROSER STORME AND
AON THE GOND TO KILL
YOU
THE STORME AND AGO. I.
THE STORME AND
AON THE SON THE STORME
THE SON THE







YOUR CHAIR !

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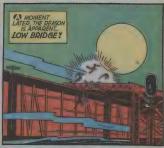






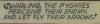
































WE COULD CLEAN UP

A MILLION DOLLARS!

PEOPLE WOULD FLOCKTO SEE HIM!



WE ARE HACKETT

ALL MAKE A

LOTO

MONE

YES, I'M PROFESSOR DRAKE! WHAT

TO SPEAK

























THE MADDENED APE-MAN, GOLIATH!





















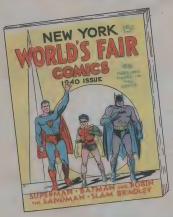






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AT ALL NEWSSTANDS

































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